

Guidance for Optimising Medicines Support for Patients Seven Day Prescribing and Multi-compartment Compliance Aids (MCA) Best Practice

Medicines Compliance Assessment Tool

This assessment tool can be used when a patient presents with a compliance problem with their prescribed medication. Using this tool will allow a judgement to be made on how best to adjust the supply of medication in order for the patient to take it correctly.

Patient details: Name Address Tel no	GP details: GP Name GP Practice
---	---

Where is this form being completed?

Patient's home ☐ Pharmacy ☐ Hospital ☐ Other ☐ Please specify.....

Does the Equality Act 2010 apply to this patient: (refer to EA Guidance – see *definitions*?)

Does the patient have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out day to day activities that impact on taking their medicines?	YES	NO
Is the patient able to come to the pharmacy to discuss their needs?	YES	NO
Is any adjustment for the benefit of the patient (rather than a carer)?	YES	NO

If all three questions are answered "yes" then the patient is covered by the Equality Act and the pharmacy/dispensary should attempt to make a reasonable adjustment.

If "no" you may still be able to assist (refer to managing Patients and Reasonable Adjustment for Medicines Flowchart) particularly if they are unable to come to the pharmacy to discuss their needs because of their physical/mental impairment. Discuss options available to help.

Step 1 - What can the patient manage?

	Swallowing	Swallow all their tablets/capsules?	Yes	No
P	Dexterity	Grip medicine bottles?	Yes	No
H		Halve tablets themselves (if required)?	Yes	No
Y		Open and close screw lids?	Yes	No
S		Open and close child-resistant lids?	Yes	No
I		Open and close winged lids?	Yes	No
C		Open medicine boxes?	Yes	No
A		Open blister strips?	Yes	No
L	Vision	Read standard print labels?	Yes	No
		Read large print labels	Yes	No
		Read braille labels (if patient blind)?	Yes	No
M	Understanding	Understand each medicine dosage instruction?	Yes	No
E		Understand the importance of each medicine?	Yes	No
N		Understand how to take PRN medication?	Yes	No
T		Understand how to take variable doses (e.g. warfarin)?	Yes	No
A	Memory	Remember to take their medication regularly?	Yes	No
L		Remember to order their repeat medication?	Yes	No

- ☐ If the answer to each question is 'yes', it is unlikely the patient requires additional compliance support.
- ☐ If the answer to any question is 'no', proceed to the suggested adjustments listed in Step 2

Step 2

Problem	Suggested Solutions	Action Plan

If a suitable adjustment can be made, agree with the patient and commence

- ☐ If the suggested adjustments for the patient is an MCA, proceed to Step 3

Step 3 – Is a Multi-compartment Compliance Aid (MCA) appropriate?

Consider the following for patients requesting an MCA tray

Is the patient able to fill an MCA tray themselves?	Yes	No
Does patient have any relatives/carers who can fill a compliance aid?	Yes	No
If either of the above questions are yes, consider sale of appropriate MCA	Yes	No
If a pharmacy-filled MCA is to be considered		
Can patient select medication from correct compartment?	Yes	No
Can patient remove medication from the box?	Yes	No
Does the patient understand how the MCA is to be used?	Yes	No

Pharmacies and surgeries should supply MCAs under the Equality Act if it applies to the patient.

If the Equality Act does not apply or your reasonable adjustment does not solve the issue then discuss what support is available (refer to managing Patients and Reasonable Adjustment for Medicines Flowchart).